



# MORRIS GARAGES INFORMER



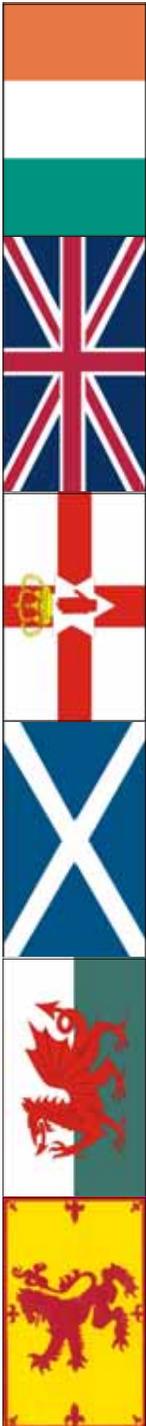
Volume 34, Number 7

“It’s Gotta Be Fun”

July 2014

## A Capital Time at the Capitol Theater

By: Gail Lenhard



A nice size group of nineteen (14 FSMGCC members & 5 Alfa Club members) met in front of the Capitol Theater in Clearwater on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Chief Marketing Officer, Eric Blankenship, arrived on time to conduct the tour. Although he doesn’t normally give tours, he was able to give a bit of the theater’s history and explained the relationship between Ruth Eckerd Hall and the Capitol Theater. According to the Ruth Eckerd Hall website: <http://www.rutheckerdhall.com/tickets-and-events/venues/capitol-theatre/>

*The Capitol Theatre has been a vital part of downtown Clearwater since its opening on March 31, 1921. The Clearwater News of March 17, 1921 described it as "one of the most beautifully finished playhouses in the South." Theater-goers were treated to a weeklong program of stars and comedians from the silent movie era.*

the west side of the lobby that had names barely visible on them and told the group that these were the names of all Clearwater citizens who had fought in World War I. When the names were discovered, the



contractors carefully removed each brick that needed to be removed for the renovation one by one, wrapped it, and stored the bricks in order to rebuild the wall at a later date.

As the group walked through the theater, we could see why the

**Next Meeting Location on July 19, 2014  
Clearwater Country Club, 525 North Betty Lane,  
Clearwater, FL 33755, 727-446-9501  
Note: Meeting Date Change**

### Inside This Edition

**Capitol Theatre..... Pg 1**

**Meeting Minutes ..... Pg 3**

**Fellowship ..... Pg 4**

**Calendar of Events ..... Pg 4**

**Tech Session ..... Pg 5**

**NAMGAR ..... Pg 6**

**Ads ..... Pg 7**

## 2012 Club Officers

### **President**

**Bruce Rauch**

727-576-9474

[brauch1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:brauch1@tampabay.rr.com)

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727-521-9890

[glenn@glennsmg.com](mailto:glenn@glennsmg.com)

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727-521-9890

[gail@glennsmg.com](mailto:gail@glennsmg.com)

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727-726-1273

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**Mike Silvernail**

727-595-3317

[mikenail41@gmail.com](mailto:mikenail41@gmail.com)

**Dave Wilgus**

727-367-2929

[mglw20@msn.com](mailto:mglw20@msn.com)

**Barrie Carson**

**Regalia Chairman**

727-791-8682

[carson5422@aol.com](mailto:carson5422@aol.com)

**Web Site**

[www.fsmgcc.com](http://www.fsmgcc.com)

**Newsletter Editor**

**Dennis J. Magee**

It is the policy of this editor to review all articles submitted and make changes as necessary.

incorporation of the two buildings was necessary. The theater has large restrooms for guests along with two lounges inside and one outside, two 'Star Rooms' complete with furniture and private bathrooms, dressing rooms, a backstage area, and a wonderful outside terrace that guests can enjoy. He said that there are still some renovations left to complete, but they should be done soon.



The new seats were very comfy in the 750 seat theater and Eric stated that the size works well because it conditions the market to pay more for quality programs. (I guess that's why he's in marketing – always has an angle.)



After the tour, the group headed to O'Keefe's for lunch and everyone had a great time talking with everyone else. Bruce conducted a quick FSMGCC monthly meeting after our server took our orders.

If you haven't been to the Capitol Theater, you should make it a point to go.





## **Florida Suncoast MG Car Club Monthly Minutes Summary June 14, 2014**

The meeting was held at Keegan's in Clearwater following a very interesting tour of the Capitol Theater. President Bruce Rauch called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m. and welcomed many Alfa club members.

Trivia Question: The MG inspired the naming of what musical group?

The Secretary's Report and the Treasurer's Report were approved as presented.

Membership Report: Glenn Lenhard stated that the club currently has 63 family/members.

Regalia: There is only one grill badge left.

### **Committee Reports:**

Activities – Bruce briefly went over the past activities:

May 17 – Tour of the Florida Orange Groves Winery & lunch at the Horse & Jockey Restaurant was an enjoyable event.

Future Activities: Bruce briefly reviewed upcoming events. See Activities in this Informer.

### **Lunch Club:**

July ?

August?

Fellowship: Dot Britton has been in Heartland of Zephyrhills, 38220 Henry Dr., Zephyrhills, FL 33545 and said that cards would be welcome to Harry & Dot. Lee Strickland is a Rehab facility and doing well.

Newsletter: Dennis Magee – articles due by: June 20th

### **Old Business:**

Northeast High School: Glenn has hired Hunter, who is a Junior at NEHS, to participate in the Glenn's MG Repair Summer Internship Program.

Announcements: Trivia Question Answer: Booker T & the MGs was the name of the group. Prudy & Rich Olsen were

the only winners.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Gail Lenhard, Secretary



Celebrating the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary the MG marque

## Calendar of Events 2014

**Bold type is Club sponsored event..**

**Jul 19: Monthly Membership Meeting; Saturday, 9:00 AM at the Clearwater Country Club Grill Room, 525 North Betty Lane, Clearwater, FL 33755 (727) 446-9501- Breakfast served starting at 8:30 AM.**

### July 2014 Fellowship

#### JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 7 John & Janet Hessey  
July 25 Jim & Nancy Lowda  
July 25 Bill & Marion Mason

#### JULY BIRTHDAYS

July 3 Joanne Baumgartner  
July 4 John Soler  
July 6 Sherrie Fitzpatrick  
July 8 Kathy Mills  
July 10 Jean Magee  
July 11 Ed McCarroll  
July 14 Nigel Petch  
July 17 Rick Hoppes

Dot Britton is at Heartland of Zephyrhills following a hospitalization with a broken arm after falling. The Club has sent cards but she & Harry would welcome all good wishes from Members: Dot Britton, c/o Heartland of Zephyrhills, 38220 Henry Drive, Zephyrhills, FL 33545

Lee Strickland is working hard in Rehab at Allegro of St. Petersburg following abdominal surgery. The Club has sent cards. He may be home before long, but you can send cards & notes to home: 7697 Caponata Blvd., Seminole, FL 33777

Sandra Petch is progressing well in recovery from a total hip replacement. She reports that she's now walking around at home "unaided."

Jul 14-18: GT-39, the North American MGA Register International Get Together in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; for info go to [www.gt-39.namgar.com](http://www.gt-39.namgar.com). There will be a train, auto, ferry tour to Ottawa –for more info contact B&B Rauch at 727-576-9474 or [brauch1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:brauch1@tampabay.rr.com).

Jul 20: TBBCC Burger Quest 1:30 PM - Mike & Karen Silvernail are organizing this monthly inter-club event.

**Aug 09: Monthly Membership Meeting; Saturday, 9:00 AM at the Clearwater Country Club Grill Room, 525 North Betty Lane, Clearwater, FL 33755 (727) 446-9501- Breakfast served starting at 8:30 AM.**

**Sep 13: Monthly Membership Meeting; Saturday, 9:00 AM at the Clearwater Country Club Grill Room, 525 North Betty Lane, Clearwater, FL 33755 (727) 446-9501- Breakfast served starting at 8:30 AM.**

**Sep 14: SUNDAY 4:00 p.m. – Early Bird Dinner Theater, 13355 49th Street North, Clearwater – BYOB – RSVP to Bert & Bruce Rauch at 727-576-9474 or [brauch1@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:brauch1@tampabay.rr.com).**

Sep 18-21: Southeast British Car Festival & MGA Regional GT, Dillard, GA in the scenic North Georgia mountains hosted by the Peachtree MG Registry. This four-day event promises to be packed with exciting activities and beautiful MGs. Reserve the date now! Contact: Jack Orkin. Email: [jack.orkin@emory.edu](mailto:jack.orkin@emory.edu). or

[www.peachtreemg.com](http://www.peachtreemg.com).

**Oct 25: 8:00 AM Breakfast at the Paradise Restaurant, Main Street, Safety Harbor followed by the All British Car Show and Autojumble**

Oct 25: 28th Annual All British Field Meet and Autojumble on the Main Street in downtown Safety Harbor. Registration forms available at [www.TBAHC.com](http://www.TBAHC.com)

Nov 7-9: Third Annual When Pigs Fly South BBQ Challenge - Sun-N-Fun Classic Car Show, Fly-In and BBQ Cook-Off, 4175 Medulla Road, Lakeland...see lots of cars, planes and Kansas City BBQ – for info go to [www.sun-n-fun.org/pigsflysouth](http://www.sun-n-fun.org/pigsflysouth) - car-a-van from Derby Lanes, St. Pete

**Nov 14-16: MG Jamboree at the Riverside Resort, Homosassa. Please check page six of this newsletter or the club's website for Registration information. Contact Gail Lenhard if you would like to volunteer for this event.**

## Tech Session

### A Question of Polarity and Regularity

The following article appeared in the June 2014 Auto Restorer Magazine. Although it was written about 1951 Packards, the same principles apply to our older positive earth (ground) British cars.

Q: I think my polarity has been switched.

I have two '51 Packards that appear to have been converted from original positive ground to negative ground. I don't know if they were converted or someone just hooked them up wrong before I got them, however, both run fine, as do all lights, horn, etc. But neither radio works (I suspect because they are positive ground). Any help you can offer will be greatly appreciated.

A: Regarding your Packards, if everything works as it should, then I would surmise that whoever did the conversions on these cars knew what they were doing. Switching polarity on an old car is generally a simple operation, depending on how the system is designed. You will want to switch the wires on the ammeter so it will read correctly. Disconnect the battery before making this change. And then you will need to switch the positive and negative low-tension wires going to the ignition coil. (Unless you can find a universal voltage regulator for your car, when you reverse polarity you may hasten the demise of the points in your original.) Finally, put the battery in so the ground is the negative pole, then touch a small wire from the positive pole of the battery to the field terminal on the generator. This polarizes the generator. However, to get the radio to work, you will need to switch the vibrator to a more modern one of the correct polarity.

The disadvantage to switching polarity on cars of the vintage of your Packards is that in the voltage regulator, the contact points are set up for the current to flow in a specific direction. That's because, as the points vibrate and arc between each other during operation, a tiny bit of one contact is made molten and jumps and welds to the other contact. To minimize this condition, the contacts are made of different materials in order to limit this transfer of metal, and the points' failure that eventually results. So when you reverse the polarity through them, you compromise the life of the points. This will shorten the life of the voltage regulator over time, but most people I know who have reversed the polarity of their cars have not experienced problems.

Also, Antique Automobile Radio sells power inverters and converters that let you run negative-ground equipment on positive-ground systems, and/or go from a 6-to a 12-volt power supply. You can reach them at: Antique Automobile Radio Inc., 700 Tampa Rd., Palm Harbor, FL 34683; [antiqueautomobileradio.com](http://antiqueautomobileradio.com); 800-933-4926.

Reprinted from the June 2014 Auto Restorer magazine





**REGISTRATION FORM**

Please return this completed form with a check made payable to **EMRCC, Inc.**

Bert & Bruce Rauch  
8632 10 Way North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

Please **PRINT** the First & Last Names of all people attending.

Name/s \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Year and Model MG/ Little British Car \_\_\_\_\_

**LAM AWARE** of the hazards inherent with motor vehicle events & specifically release & so indemnify the organizers, supporting sponsors, & the Florida Suncoast MG Car Club collectively & separately, for any & all liability from personal injury or property damage incurred by me or my guest(s) while participating in the MG Jamboree 19. I understand & agree that The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club reserves the right to revoke my registration & retain my registration fee should I engage in reckless dangerous and/or unsafe behavior. **I have read, understand, and agree to this release. THIS MUST BE SIGNED BELOW**

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Every year our specially designed souvenir T-shirts are a big hit! Also available are neat, MG Jamboree® golf-style caps. Finally, for those cool morning drives, there are cozy sweatshirts with the MG Jamboree® logo.



Please note: Special room rates and my planned activities or meals are available only to "MG Jamboree 19" registrants. Please register early. Advanced planning & ordering of items needed to host this event is much easier if we know the number of people who will be attending. Thank you!

**REGISTRATION**

**Early Registration before September 1:**  
The fee is for one British Car and/or two people and children up through four years old.

Early Registration fee ..... \$40.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Normal Registration after September 1:  
Normal registration fee ..... \$50.00 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Guests (& children over 4) @ \$20.00 ea \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MEALS**

The cost is \$100.00 per person for **ALL five meals** including tax, and gratuity. \$75.00 per child for children ages four through twelve.

**Number of adults and**

Children over 12 @ \$100.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of children \_\_\_\_\_  
Ages 4 - 12 @ \$75.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Friday Evening - BBQ Dinner  
Saturday - Continental Breakfast  
Sunday - Cookout under the trees  
Saturday - River Cruise/Tech Session  
Saturday - Dinner - "County Fair"  
Sunday - Continental Breakfast

Friday BBQ Cookout: # people \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday Continental Breakfast # people \_\_\_\_\_

**Please select your Saturday menu:**

Lunch } Hot Dog & all the fixins' \_\_\_\_\_  
          } Hamburger & all the fixins' \_\_\_\_\_  
Dinner } Prime Rib of Beef \_\_\_\_\_  
          } Grilled Mahi Mahi \_\_\_\_\_  
          } Chicken Gordon Bleu \_\_\_\_\_  
          } Children's chicken tenders (ages 4 - 12) \_\_\_\_\_  
          } Children's hamburger (ages 4 - 12) \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday: Continental Breakfast # people \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian by request: # people \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_  
River Cruise: @ \$10.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**REGALIA ITEMS:**

MG Jamboree 19 T-shirt @ \$15.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
MG Jamboree 19 T-shirt-XXL @ \$17.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
MG Jamboree Sweatshirt @ \$20.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
MG Jamboree Sweatshirt-XXL @ \$22.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
MG Jamboree Golf Cap @ \$12.00 ea = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate quantity and size on the form to the left)

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



November 14-16, 2014 • Homosassa Springs, FL  
All British Car Owners are invited to join the Fun!

"It's a County Fair at MG Jamboree 19!"

The Florida Suncoast MG Car Club invites **ALL** British Car Enthusiasts to join us. We will have a good old fashion BBQ and *The Best of the Best* LBCs in the Movies on Friday night and *A Night at the County Fair* on Saturday. As in past years, costumes are encouraged, and fun is mandatory (can't be helped).

We will be having a Raffle on Saturday so make sure you purchase tickets and place them in the bucket by the Raffle item you would like to win. The more tickets you purchase the more chances to win! @

**Location:**

The event will be held at the gorgeous Homosassa Riverside Resort, 5297 Cherokee Way, Homosassa Springs, Florida, 34448 overlooking the famous Monkey Island.

*Overflow hotel* - MacRae's of Homosassa 352-628-2602 - rates start at \$85 for a standard room per night.

**Friday:**

Join us in the Hospitality Room where you will find the MG Jamboree Registration and complimentary beverages and snacks nearby. It's time to start relaxing

**6:00 p.m. BBQ & Movie Trivia** will be in the banquet room. After dinner, it's time to grab your partner and square up for Dave Tietz's famous *The Best of the Best LBCs in the Movies!*

**Saturday Morning:**

Continental Breakfast - Banquet Room  
Regalia Sales  
British Cars Displayed on the Grass  
Fun Judging of Cars and/or People  
And Much More.....

**Saturday Lunch:**

Hamburgers & Hot dogs with all the fixins' grilled under the trees.

**Saturday Afternoon:**

River Cruise - Space is limited - see registration form - \$10.00 per person

Tech Session - Glenn Lenhard

Homosassa Wildlife Demonstration

Saturday Evening: *A Night at the County Fair*

5:00 p.m. County Fair Games!

6:00 p.m. County Fair

Dinner - Banquet Room  
Awards & Raffle

**Sunday Morning:**

Continental Breakfast - Banquet Room  
Fond Farewells - until MG Jamboree 20 in 2016

**For More Information Contact:**

Gail Lenhard @ (727) 521-9890 or gail@suncoast.com

Make your reservations directly with:

Homosassa Riverside Resort  
(800) 442-2040 or (352) 628-2474

Please mention the "MG Jamboree" when reserving your room. Reservations must be made by September 1 to get special room rates starting at \$85 for a standard room per night. The resort also has one & two bedroom suites available. These reduced rates are available to MG Jamboree registrants only. In addition, the hotel will honor these special rates for one day before and after our event, if you want to come early and/or stay later.

**There is a NO PETS policy at Riverside Inn & MacRae's.**

**Directions:**

From US 19 in Homosassa -

Turn **WEST** on West Yulee Drive, Route 490, at the traffic light (Burger King is on the corner @ West Yulee Dr.)  
Follow Double yellow lines to the first stop sign Turn **LEFT** (remaining on Yulee Dr.) Follow the Double Yellow line to the first four-way stop sign. Turn **RIGHT** and you will be at the Homosassa Riverside Resort.



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## Upcoming Events 2014 July

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